

CLARIFY REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE NC AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM FUNDS OR AGRICULTURE WATER RESOURCES ASSISTANCE

SECTION 11.2A.(a) G.S. 106-850(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) The program shall be subject to the following requirements and limitations:

- ...
- (10) To be eligible for cost share funds under this program, each applicant must establish that he or she is engaged in farming by providing any of the following to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission with his or her application ~~a copy of the applicant's federal tax Schedule F (Form 1040) for the most recent tax year showing the applicant's profit or loss from farming-application:~~
- a. A copy of the farm owner's or operator's federal tax Schedule F (Form 1040) or an equivalent form for the most recent tax year showing the owner's or operator's profit or loss from farming.
 - b. A copy of the farm's agricultural exemption certificate issued to the farm owner or operator by the Department of Revenue.
 - c. For forestland actively engaged in the commercial growing of trees under a sound management program as defined in G.S. 105-277.2(6), a copy of the sound forest management plan described in G.S. 105-277.3(g).
- (11) In extraordinary circumstances, the Commission may permit an applicant to establish that he or she is engaged in farming with an alternate form of documentation if the farm has a conservation plan that meets the statutory purposes of the program."

SECTION 11.2A.(b) G.S. 139-60 reads as rewritten:

"§ 139-60. Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program.

...

(c1) To be eligible for assistance under this program, each applicant must establish that he or she is engaged in farming by providing to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission with his or her application ~~a copy of the applicant's federal tax Schedule F (Form 1040) for the most recent tax year showing the applicant's profit or loss from farming-application:~~

- (1) A copy of the farm owner's or operator's federal tax Schedule F (Form 1040) or an equivalent form for the most recent tax year showing the owner's or operator's profit or loss from farming.
- (2) A copy of the farm's agricultural exemption certificate issued to the farm owner or operator by the Department of Revenue.
- (3) For forestland actively engaged in the commercial growing of trees under a sound management program as defined in G.S. 105-277.2(6), a copy of the sound forest management plan described in G.S. 105-277.3(g).

(c2) In extraordinary circumstances, the Commission may permit an applicant to establish that he or she is engaged in farming with an alternate form of documentation if the farm has a conservation plan that meets the statutory purposes of the program.

...."

SOUTHEASTERN NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL CENTER AND FARMERS MARKET/STUDY OPTIONS

SECTION 11.3.(a) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall study the operating model of the Southeastern North Carolina Agricultural Center and Farmers Market and recommend alternative operating models. The alternative operating models should be evaluated based on a goal of limiting subsidies from State funds in support of facility operations to no more than fifty percent (50%) of the facility's operating budget. At a minimum, the Department should consider the following alternatives:

- (1) Changing the services provided, with particular emphasis on options for the retail farmers market.
- (2) Pooling staff, resources, and profits between the Center and other similar facilities operated by the Department.
- (3) Contracting with a private entity to operate the Center or some portion of the Center's operations.